

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.
RECEIVED
27 OCT 1953
A.



FISHGUARD AND GOODWICK
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1952

NOTICE OF THE
COURT OF COMMONS
IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF

THE
COURT OF COMMONS
IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF

THE
COURT OF COMMONS
IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William J. Y. Speedy, M.B., B.CH., Ba.O., L.R.C.P.&S., L.R.F.P.&S., D.P.H.

SANITARY OFFICER

Arthur James, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
1. PREFACE TO THE REPORT	4, 5.
2. PART 1. VITAL STATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY:-	
(a) Summary of Statistics	7.
(b) Births and Birth-Rates	8.
(c) Deaths and Death-Rates	9.
(d) Infectious Diseases	10.
(e) Tuberculosis	11.
(f) Diphtheria Immunisations	12.
(g) Vaccinations	12.
3. PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE:-	
(a) Milk Supplies	14.
(b) Water Supplies	15.
(c) Control of Food	16, 17.
(d) Housing	18, 19, 20.
(e) Factories and Workshops	21.
(f) General Hygiene & Sanitation.....	21, 22, 23, 24, 25.
4. APPENDICES :-	
(a) Mass Radiography Service	26.
(b) New Regulations and Orders	27.

CONTENTS

Page

REFERENCE TO THE REPORT

4. 5.

PART I. VITAL STATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY:-

7.	Summary of Statistics
8.	Birth and Birth-Rates
9.	Deaths and Death-Rates
10.	Infectious Diseases
11.	Tuberculosis
12.	Diphtheria Immunisations
12.	Vaccinations

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE:-

14.	Milk Supplies
15.	Water Supplies
16.	Control of Food
17.	Housing
18.	Factories and Workshops
19.	General Hygiene & Sanitation
20.	
21.	
22.	
23.	
24.	

APPENDICES:-

25.	(a) News Radiography Service
27.	(b) New Regulations and Orders

PREFACE TO THE REPORT

Public Health Department,
County Offices,
Haverfordwest.
September, 1953.

To: The Public Health Committee:

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report upon matters relating to the public health in the District for the year 1952.

There was a slight rise in the total population, and a considerable rise in the natural increase in population during the year.

There was a considerable rise in the general Birth-rate over the preceding year. This is the first upward trend in the Birth-rate since 1947. The provision of new houses has undoubtedly had a direct bearing on this trend. The Birth-rate for the District is still, however, a good deal lower than the average Rate for the whole of England and Wales.

There was a large increase in the number of Stillbirths as compared with previous years. The cause, or causes, of this are obscure. This was associated with a large increase in Illegitimate Births.

The General Death-Rate in the District has fluctuated over the past six years. There has been, however, a considerable fall in the rate from 15.7 in 1950 to 10.4 in 1952. This present rate also compares very favourable with the average rate of 11.3 throughout England and Wales. The low Death-Rate is further enhanced by the fact that approximately 65% of all deaths were in persons of seventy years of age or more.

It has long been realised that the first year is a critical period in a person's life. Special attention has, therefore, been paid to the mortality statistics of children up to 1 year of age, that is, Infant Mortality. The Infant mortality rate in the District has fallen from 61.2 per 1000 births in 1947 to 13.8 in 1952. The present rate of 13.8 is also half the average rate of 27.6 for the whole of England and Wales.

The number of deaths from Cancer remained substantially the same as for the preceding year. The Cancer Death-Rate however, that is, number of Cancer deaths per 1000 of population, is considerably smaller than the average rate for the whole of England and Wales. There appears to be a slight improvement generally in the Cancer mortality statistics. This is due to improved methods of treatment, rather than any active preventative measures.

It is satisfactory to note that there were no deaths, in the District, from Tuberculosis during the year. Also there were no violent Deaths.

There was a low general incidence of Infectious Disease during the year. A small epidemic of Paratyphoid, reaching fourteen cases, occurred in July. Details of this epidemic are given in the appropriate section of the Report. The absence of Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis from the notification list will again be noted.

There was a considerable decrease in the number of fresh notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, only one case being notified during the year. Also, as has already been noted, there were no deaths from this disease.

There was a further fall in the number of Immunisations against Diphtheria during the year. On the other hand, the number of vaccinations against Smallpox increased.

Public Health Department,
County Office,
Llanelli,
September, 1953.

To: The Public Health Commission;

Mr. Chairman, Members and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report upon matters relating to the public health in the District for the year 1952.

There was a slight rise in the total population, and a considerable rise in the natural increase in population during the year.

There was a considerable rise in the general birth-rate over the preceding year. This is the first upward trend in the birth-rate since 1947. The provision of new houses has undoubtedly had a direct bearing on this trend. The birth-rate for the District is still, however, a good deal lower than the average rate for the whole of England and Wales.

There was a large increase in the number of stillbirths as compared with previous years. The cause, or causes, of this are obscure. This was associated with a large increase in illegitimate births.

The General Death-Rate in the District has fluctuated over the past six years. There has been, however, a considerable fall in the rate from 15.7 in 1946 to 10.4 in 1952. This present rate also compares very favourably with the average rate of 11.5 throughout England and Wales. The low Death-Rate is further enhanced by the fact that approximately 65% of all deaths were in persons of seventy years of age or more.

It has long been realised that the first year is a critical period in a person's life. Special attention has, therefore, been paid to the mortality statistics of children up to 1 year of age, that is, Infant Mortality. The infant mortality rate in the District has fallen from 61.2 per 1000 births in 1947 to 15.8 in 1952. The present rate of 15.8 is also half the average rate of 27.6 for the whole of England and Wales.

The number of deaths from Cancer remained substantially the same as for the preceding year. The Cancer Death-Rate, however, that is, number of Cancer deaths per 1000 of population, is considerably smaller than the average rate for the whole of England and Wales. There appears to be a slight improvement generally in the Cancer mortality statistics. This is due to improved methods of treatment, rather than any active preventative measures.

It is satisfactory to note that there were no deaths, in the District, from Tuberculosis during the year. Also there were no violent deaths.

There was a low general incidence of Infectious Diseases during the year. A small epidemic of Paratyphoid, reaching fourteen cases, occurred in July. Details of this epidemic are given in the appropriate section of the report. The absence of Diphtheria and Polio-myelitis from the notification list will again be noted.

There was a considerable decrease in the number of fresh notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, only one case being notified during the year. Also, as has already been noted, there were no deaths from this disease.

There was a further fall in the number of Immunisations against Diphtheria during the year. On the other hand, the number of vaccinations against Smallpox increased.

The number of satisfactory milk samples once again reached a high figure, that is, 93.4%. This reflects great credit upon the standard of cleanliness in the production and distribution of milk.

Water supplies continue to be satisfactory, both from the point of view of quality and quantity. Routine chemical and bacteriological tests are carried out by the Public Analyst and the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen. Storage capacity remains at approximately a day's supply. This must be considered inadequate to meet emergencies.

The hard core of the Housing problem has not yet been met in the District. Overcrowding, single unfit houses, and slum areas, all have to be catered for by the Housing programme, in addition to the normal demand for houses of young married couples living in rooms or with "in-laws". Special attention should be given to the Housing and Drainage problems of Lower Fishguard.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all Members and Officers of the Council for their continued assistance and co-operation during the year.

I remain,
Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) W. J. Y. SPEEDY.

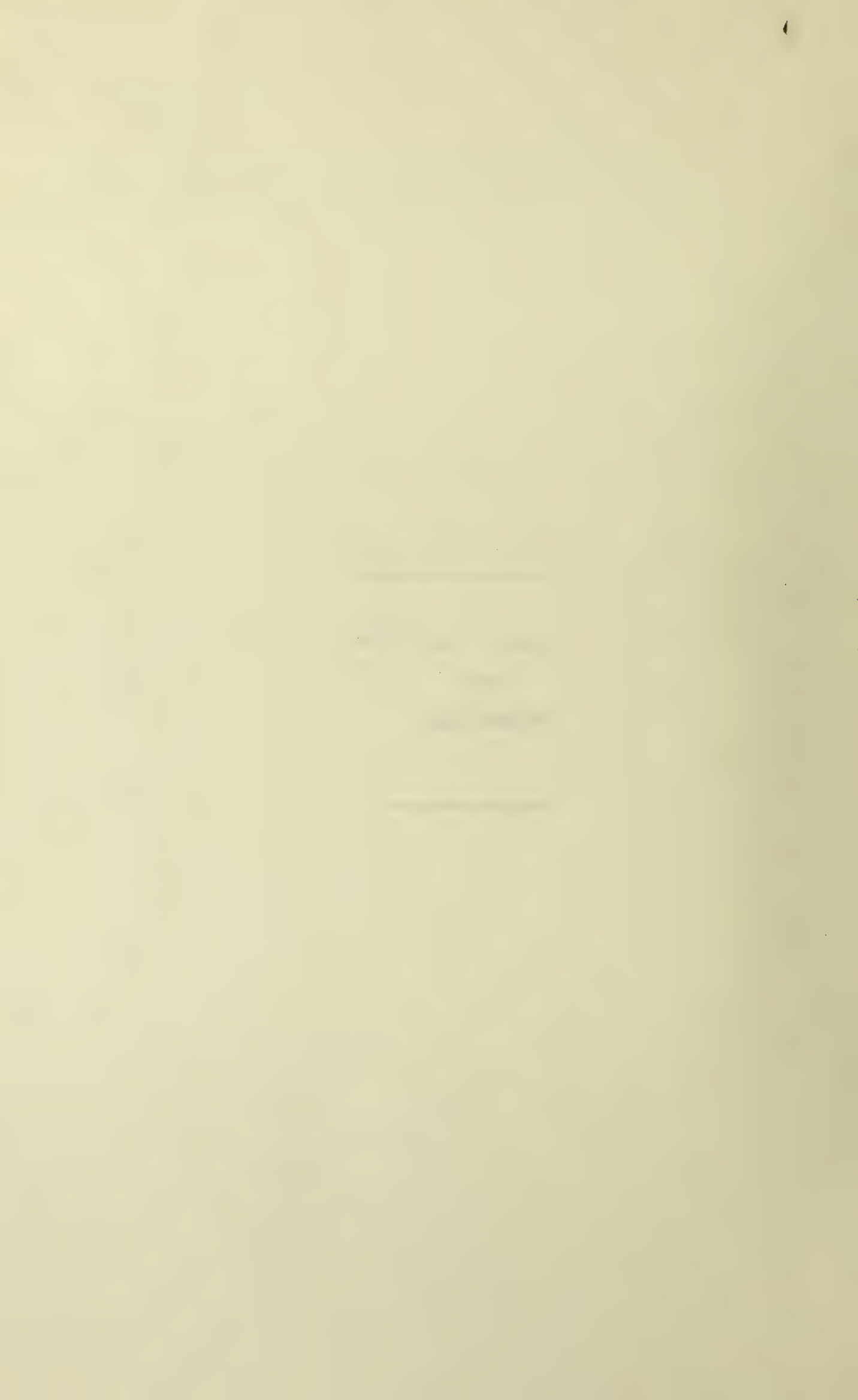
Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

P A R T I

VITAL STATISTICS

and

EPIDEMIOLOGY



SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

1.	Estimated Mid-Year Population	=	4,879	(4,827)
2.	Natural Increase in Population	=	+21	(0)
(a) 3.	General Birth-Rate	=	14.8	(15.3)
(b) 4.	Still Birth-Rate	=	76.9	(22.6)
(a) 5.	General Death-Rate	=	10.4	(11.3)
(c) 6.	Infant Mortality-Rate	=	13.8	(27.6)
(a) 7.	Cancer Death-Rate	=	1.8	(3.9)
(a) 8.	Tuberculosis Death-Rate	=	Nil	(0.2)

(a) Rate per 1000 of Population.

(b) Rate per 1000 Total Births.

(c) Rate per 1000 Live Births.

Figures in brackets 1 and 2 are corresponding figures for 1951.

Figures in brackets 3 to 8 are corresponding figures for the whole of England and Wales for 1952.

THEORY OF THE EARTH

The theory of the earth is a branch of geology which deals with the origin and development of the earth and its various parts. It is a science which seeks to explain the causes of the various geological phenomena which we observe in nature. The theory of the earth is a very old science, and it has been the subject of much speculation and controversy. In the early days of the world, men believed that the earth was created by the gods, and that it was the work of the gods to create the world. But as time went on, men began to think for themselves, and they began to ask questions about the origin of the earth. They began to wonder how the earth came to be, and what forces were at work in its development. This was the beginning of the theory of the earth. It was a science which sought to explain the causes of the various geological phenomena which we observe in nature. The theory of the earth is a very old science, and it has been the subject of much speculation and controversy. In the early days of the world, men believed that the earth was created by the gods, and that it was the work of the gods to create the world. But as time went on, men began to think for themselves, and they began to ask questions about the origin of the earth. They began to wonder how the earth came to be, and what forces were at work in its development. This was the beginning of the theory of the earth. It was a science which sought to explain the causes of the various geological phenomena which we observe in nature.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATES

Classification of Births

The following births occurred during the year :-

	<u>Live Births</u>			<u>Still Births</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	35	33	68	4	2	6
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>37</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
Total Births (Live and Still) for 1952				=	78	(71)
Live Births for 1952				=	72	(68)
Still Births for 1952				=	6	(3)
Illegitimate Births for 1952				=	4	(1)

General Birth-Rate.

(That is, Number of live births per 1000 of population)

Birth-Rate for District for 1952	=	14.8	(13.9)
Birth-Rate for England & Wales for 1952	=	15.3	

There has been a rise in the Birth-Rate in the District over the preceding year, but the Rate is somewhat lower than the average Rate for the whole of England and Wales.

Still Birth-Rate

(That is, Number of Still Births per 1000 total births).

Still Birth-Rate for District for 1952	=	76.9
Still Birth-Rate for England & Wales for 1952	=	22.6

There was a considerable increase in the number of Still Births during the year. The Still Birth-Rate for the District is much higher than the average rate for the whole of England and Wales.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATES

Classification of Deaths

		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	=	9	10	19
Diseases of Brain and Nervous System	=	5	5	10
Cancer (all forms)	=	6	3	9
Diseases of Respiratory System (Excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	=	1	1	2
Infectious Diseases	=	0	1	1
Diseases of Kidneys and Urinary System	=	1	0	1
Congenital Malformations	=	1	0	1
Unclassified and Ill-defined	=	4	4	8
Total ::	=	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>51</u>

Approximately 65% of all deaths were in persons of 70 years of age or more.

General Death-Rate

(That is, number of Deaths per 1000 of population).

General Death-Rate for District for 1952 = 10.4 (13.9)
General Death-Rate for England & Wales for 1952 = 11.3

There has been a large reduction in the Death-Rate in the District over the preceding year. The District Rate is also considerably lower than the average Rate for the whole of England and Wales. This is all the more satisfactory when it is considered that approximately 65% of all deaths were in persons of 70 years of age or more.

Infant Mortality

(That is, deaths of children 1 year of age and under).

There was one Infant death during the year, which gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 13.8 per 1000 Live Births.

This is an extremely low Rate, and may be compared with the average rate of 27.6 throughout the whole of England and Wales.

Cancer Mortality

The number of deaths from Cancer, that is, 9, remained approximately the same as for the preceding year.

Cancer Death-Rate for the District for 1952 = 1.8
Cancer Death-Rate for England & Wales for 1952 = 3.9

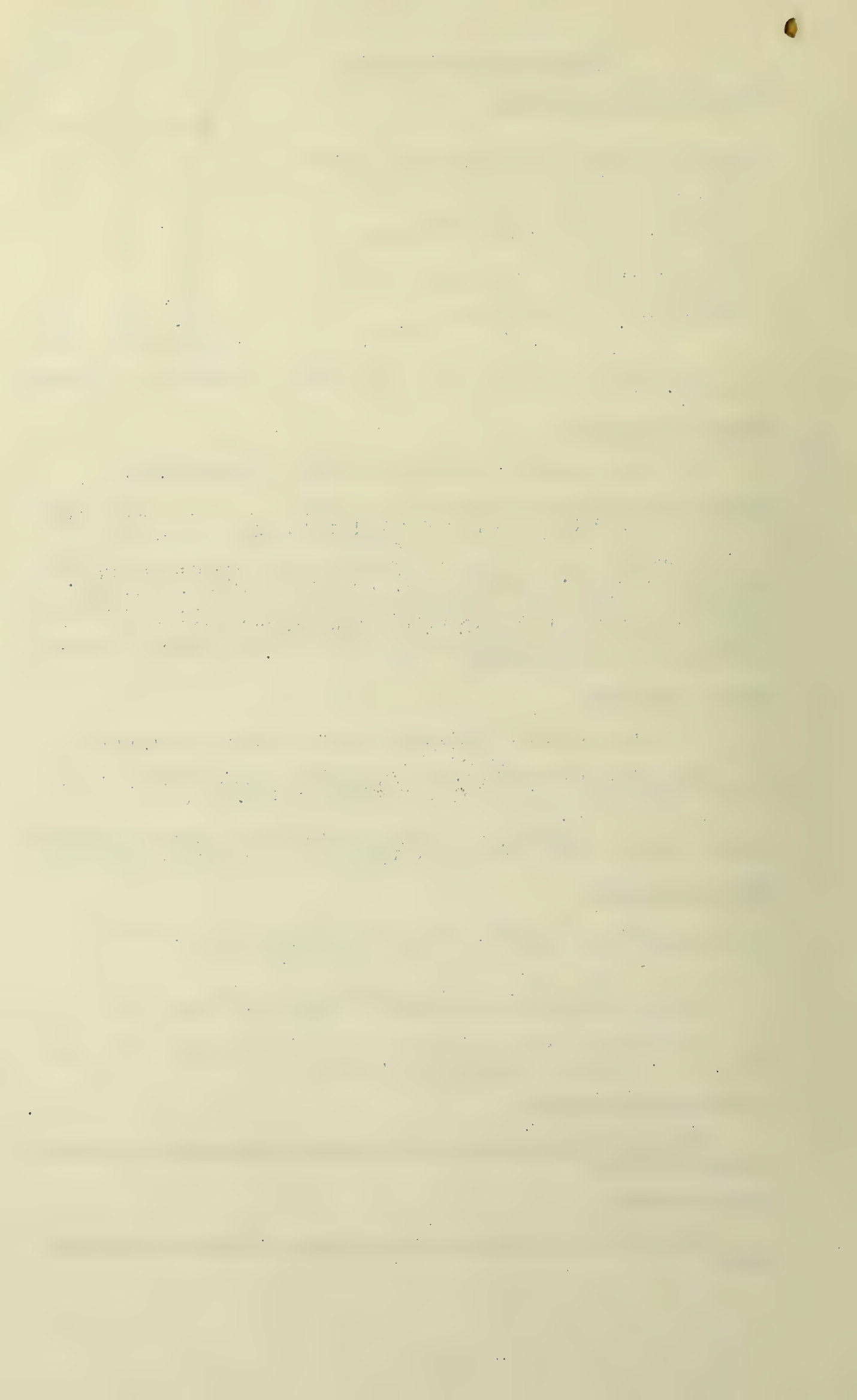
The District Rate is therefore considerably lower than the Rate for the whole of England and Wales.

Tuberculosis Mortality

There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis registered during the year.

Violent Deaths

There were no deaths due to violence registered during the year.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

The following Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:-

		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Paratyphoid Fever	=	2	12	14
Scarlet Fever	=	6	5	11
Whooping-Cough	=	4	2	6
Measles	=	1	4	5
Pneumonia	=	2	2	4

This represents a very low general incidence of Infectious Disease.

There was, however, a small epidemic of Paratyphoid Fever which occurred during the month of July. A total of fourteen cases were diagnosed. The epidemic was similar to other small epidemics throughout South Wales generally, and the Phase type of the organism isolated in the Fishguard epidemic was the same as that isolated in the Cardiff epidemic.

The cause could not be proved conclusively.

With the excellent co-operation of the families concerned, and with the assistance of the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen, the epidemic was successfully controlled. Only one possible recording case occurred.

At present, (July) 1953, two persons continue to be carriers and are being kept under surveillance.

The disease was of a mild type and all patients recovered from the attack.

Mortality from Infectious Diseases

Only one death occurred from Infectious Disease during the year, and this death was due to Pneumonia.

This may be compared with 8 Deaths from Infectious Disease during 1951.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

(That is, Tuberculosis primarily affecting the Lungs and Respiratory System).

Incidence

There was only one (1) case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year. The following Table shows the number of cases over the past six years :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1947	3	2	5
1948	2	2	4
1949	2	2	4
1950	0	0	0
1951	4	1	5
1952	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>19</u>

Notification Rate for Pulmonary Tuberculosis for 1952 = .02

Mortality

There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year.

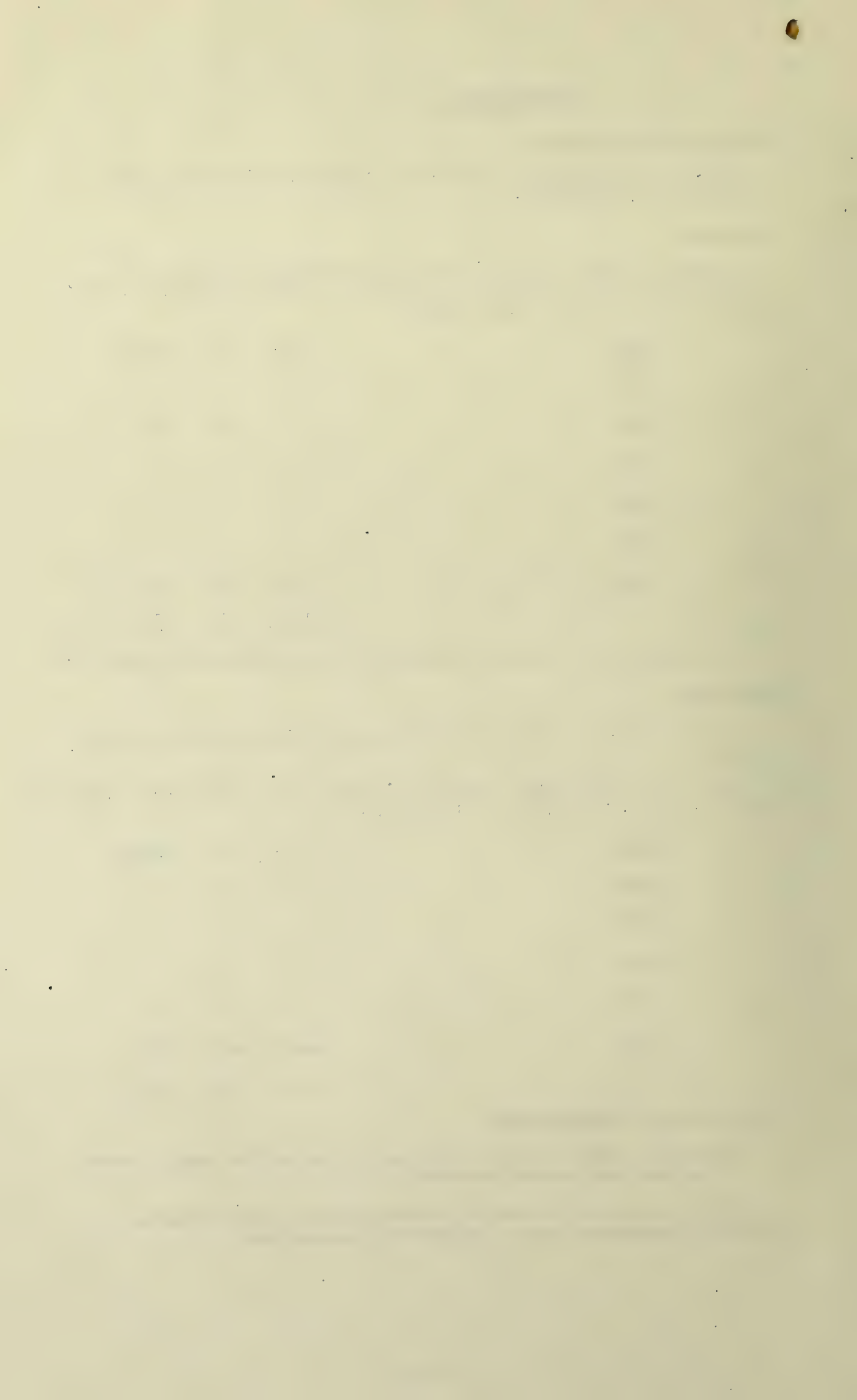
The following Table shows the number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis over the past five years :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1948	2	1	3
1949	1	1	2
1950	1	1	2
1951	1	0	1
1952	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

(That is, Tuberculosis affecting parts of the body, other than the Respiratory System).

There was one (1) case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year. There were no deaths.



IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The following is a summary of Diphtheria Immunisations carried out during the year :-

Primary Immunisations:-

0	-	5, years of age	=	17	
5	+	years of age	=	2	= 19

Re-inforcement Immunisations:-

5	-	10 years of age	=	1	
10	-	15 years of age	=	0	= <u>1</u>
Total :					<u>20</u>

The number of children Immunised decreased over the preceding year. Although there has not been a case of Diphtheria in the District for several years, it is still important that infants should continue to be immunised.

The following Table shows the decrease in cases of death in Wales, since the commencement of Mass Immunisation :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1944	2,213	77
1947	441	19
1951	53	1

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following is a summary of the Vaccinations against Smallpox carried out during the year.

Primary Vaccinations:-

0	-	1 year of age	=	10	
1	-	2 years of age	=	5	
2	-	4 years of age	=	5	
5	-	14 years of age	=	4	
15+		years of age	=	<u>1</u>	= 25

Re-Vaccinations:-

15+		years of age	=	<u>8</u>	= <u>8</u>
Total :					<u>33</u>

The number of vaccinations increased considerably during the year. However, a large proportion of children and adults are still unprotected.

Periodic outbreaks continue to occur throughout the United Kingdom, and it is a wise precaution for parents to see that their children are vaccinated.

As Fishguard is a sea port there is an added danger of the importation of Smallpox.

P A R T II

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE



MILK SUPPLIES

Milk Sampling

The Milk Sampling scheme was continued during the year. Samples were taken at consumer level and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory for testing and report. The Methylene Blue Reduction Test was the routine test applied for non-heat-treated milk, and the Phosphotase Test for heat-treated milk.

The results of sampling during the year were as follows :-

Satisfactory	=	43 Samples	(93.4%)
Doubtful	=	1 Sample	(2.1%)
Unsatisfactory	=	2 Samples	(4.5%)
Total	=	<u>46</u> Samples	

The following Table shows the results of milk supply since the inception of the scheme :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Doubtful</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
1948	46	41%	32.6%	26.4%
1949	106	69.8%	26.1%	14.1%
1950	43	97.7%	2.3%	Nil
1951	67	89.5%	7.6%	2.9%
1952	46	93.4%	2.3%	4.3%

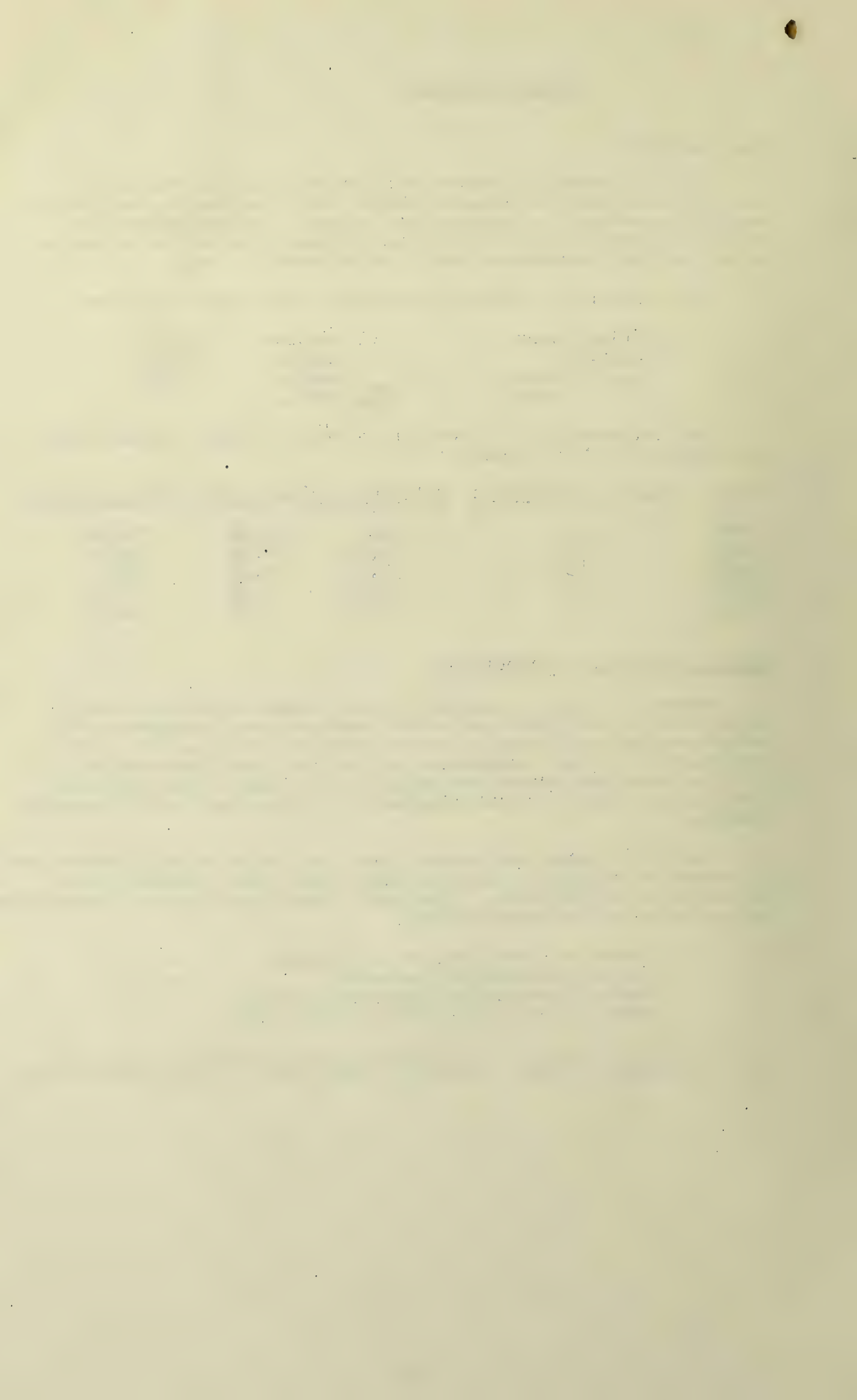
Milk Distribution and Dairies

During the year a bottling establishment which was being carried on in very unsatisfactory premises, was transferred to other premises which was an improvement on the old. The person responsible for the undertaking of bottling and distribution of milk installed modern and hygienic equipment. All the milk distributed from this establishment is Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested.

One Distributor was removed from the Register of Distributors by reason of ceasing to retail milk in the area. Another name was added to the Register. The small quantity which he distributes is confined to the Goodwick Ward.

Number of Distributors on Register	=	6
Number distributing raw milk	=	4
Number distributing Pasteurised Milk	=	1
Number distributing TT Certified Milk	=	2

All milk supplied to the Schools is Pasteurised. The raw milk is limited to that produced on the farms of the distributors.



Water Sampling

Samples were again taken at consumer level for general bacteriological examination, and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen for testing and report. The number of B.coli organisms (faecal and non-faecal) per 100 cmls. being the routine test.

The following is the result of water sampling during the year:-

Satisfactory	=	12 Samples
Doubtful	=	Nil
Unsatisfactory	=	<u>Nil</u>
Total	=	<u>12</u> Samples

In addition to this, the Council's Water Engineer takes routine samples from source, and before and after treatment. Both bacteriological and chemical samples are taken and forwarded to the Public Analyst at Carmarthen for testing and report.

General Statistics

Number of dwellings connected to mains at beginning of year	=	1515
Number of new connections made during year	=	7
Total number of houses connected at end of year	=	1522

Total number of complaints of inadequate supply	=	7
Total number of complaints investigated	=	7
Number of complaints remedied after issue of informal notice	=	6
Number of complaints remedied after formal notice	=	1

Average daily amount of water used	=	170,000 gallons
Average daily amount per head	=	34 gallons

Water Supplies

The sources of supply remain the same as last year. No new sources have been added. During the year, operations were carried out for Waste Detection in the service mains.

To control the quantity of water used on certain business premises, the method of supply by meter was introduced and charges made according to the quantity used. This system should reduce the excessive waste which has been prevalent in the past.

No changes have been made in the methods of treatment of water during the year. Filtration is still carried out at Penwallis, and hydraulic injection of the agents used continues. The agents used are the same, namely, Lime, Alum, Ammonia, Soda Ash and Chloros. Lime and Alum are introduced during the filtration process. Ammonia, Soda Ash and Chloros, which are sterilisation agents, are introduced after filtration, and do their work in the storage Reservoir.

The storage capacity remains at 140,000 gallons. This includes 100,000 gallons at Penwallis and 40,000 gallons at Stop and Call. It should be noted that storage capacity is less than one day's supply. The scheme to bring Glyngarth into commission is still in the course of preparation.

Fortunately, there has been no serious drought during the year. Should a drought occur in the near future it will be difficult to maintain adequate supply. More serious consideration should be given to this matter.

During the year, a number of complaints were investigated of inadequate supplies of water for domestic purposes. In nearly all cases investigated, it was found that insufficient supplies were due to the corroded state of the service pipes, which were very old galvanised iron pipes. When these services were renewed with new service pipes, the supplies were made quite satisfactory.

FOOD CONTROL

Registered Premises

The following is a summary of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act:-

Ice-Cream Premises	=	26
Prepared Food Premises	=	12
Slaughter Houses	=	Nil
Knacker's Yards	=	Nil

Condemnation of Food-Stuffs

The following is a summary of Food-Stuffs condemned during the year :-

48 Tins Fruit;	33 Tins Meat;	74½.lbs. Cooked Ham;
19 Tins Fish;	5½.lbs. Fish;	2 Tins Soups;
8 Tins Vegetables;	114 Eggs;	344 Tins Milk;
9 Tins Sweet Pudding;	6.lbs. Cake;	18.pkts.Chocolate Mixture.

Ice Cream Supplies

The sampling scheme for the general bacteriological examination of Ice-Cream was continued during the year. Samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen for testing and report.

The results of sampling during the year were as follows :-

Grade I.	(Highly Satisfactory)	=	11 Samples
Grade II.	(Satisfactory)	=	10 Samples
Grade III.	(Doubtful)	=	3 Samples
Grade IV.	(Unsatisfactory)	=	4 Samples
Total		=	<u>28</u> Samples

The following is a summary of Sampling Results since the inception of the scheme:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Doubtful</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
1950	10	50.0%	20.0%	30.0%
1951	49	80.1%	2.0%	17.9%
1952	28	75.0%	10.7%	14.3%

The following is a summary of Ice-Cream Premises in the District :-

Producers Only	=	2
Producer-Retailers	=	2
Retailers Only	=	<u>22</u>
Total	=	<u>26</u>

Fifty-three (53) inspections of Ice-Cream Premises were carried out during the year.

The greatest proportion of Ice-Cream sold in the District is pre-packed, and stored in refrigerators awaiting sale.

There is no sale of Ice-Cream in the District from Mobile units.

Bakehouses

There are eight (8) Bakehouses - 6 Power, 2 Non-power.

These have been periodically inspected, and where necessary, action was taken to ensure that cleanliness is maintained. It may be interesting to note that within the past ten years or so, the number of bakehouses operating in the area has been reduced by 4. This may be due to the fact that it is uneconomic to produce without mechanical power.

Catering Establishments.

There are twelve (12) catering establishments in the area apart from the licensed premises. With the exception of one, they all have hot and cold water laid on. They are all supplied with hygienic facilities for the preparation of food.

Licensed Establishments

Number of Premises	=	18
Number Registered Clubs	=	3

In addition, there are the Refreshments Rooms at Fishguard Harbour. It is pleasing to note that there has been a marked improvement in the hygienic and sanitary facilities at these premises. The Licensing Authorities press for modern conveniences to be installed when considering applications for licences, with the result that all such premises are fitted with proper sanitary conveniences, and hot and cold water is laid on to provide adequate washing facilities of the drinking utensils.

Meat Shops

There are eight (8) Meat Shops in the area. Each of these have refrigerators installed. The meat is delivered from the Centre which is situated at Haverfordwest. No slaughtering is carried out within the District. In the Goodwick Area the meat is delivered direct to the shops. In Fishguard it is delivered to an allocation centre near Brodog. Observation has been kept on these deliveries and the improvements referred to in the previous report have been maintained.

Food Poisoning

Nil to Report.

Retail Food Shops and Catering

The number of shops supplying vegetables, fruit and confectionery, is forty-five (45). A number of these premises are attached to dwellinghouses, and in some cases, part of the living accommodation has been adopted for retail purposes. In such cases, the shop part of the premises is limited to one room of the house. Generally, the hygienic condition of these premises is good. The large establishments conform to the requirements of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950. The smaller one-room shop establishments have the facilities required by the Act. Such facilities, however, are part of the living accommodation attached.

Mineral Water Supplies

There are no Mineral Water Factories in the District.



HOUSING

Council Housing Programme

Number of New Houses completed during 1952 = 4
Number of New Houses in the course of
erection at 31st December, 1952 = Nil

The following Table shows the annual number of New Council Houses since 1947 :-

<u>Year</u>		<u>No. of New Council Houses</u>
1947	=	22
1948	=	32
1949	=	16
1950	=	28
1951	=	24
1952	=	4
Total	=	<u>126</u>

Council Housing Estates

The following is a summary of the completed Council Estates up to date :-

<u>Site</u>		<u>Permanent Houses</u>	<u>Temporary Houses - Prefabs.</u>	<u>Hutments</u>	<u>Total</u>
Wallis Crescent		10	-	-	10
Heol-y-Felin		32	-	-	32
Maeshyfryd	+	100	-	-	100
Stop and Call	+	26	-	-	26
Cwmbrandy		-	-	3	3
Total	::	168	-	3	171

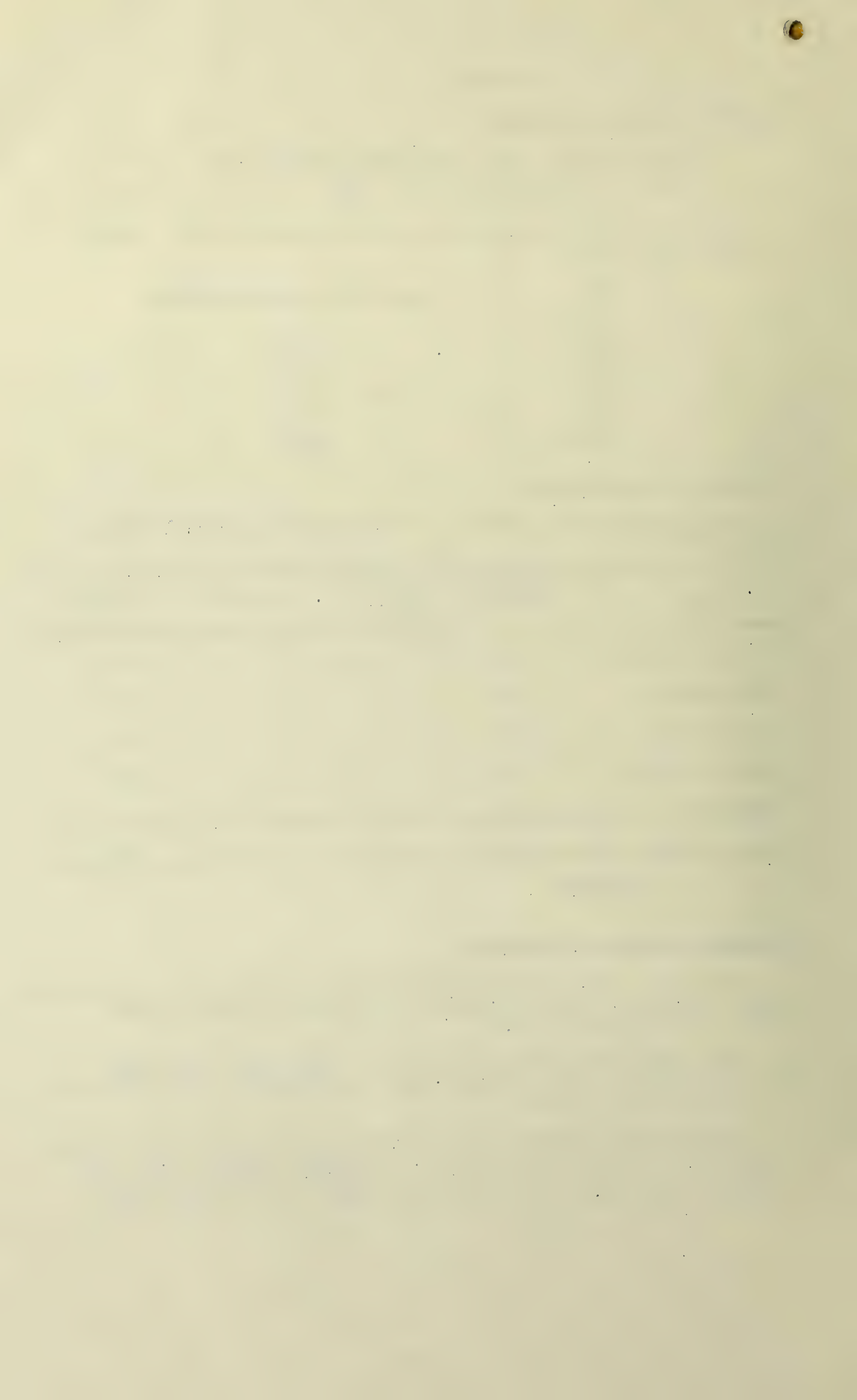
+ Post-War

Temporary Housing - Hutments

There are three families still living in huts in the Cwmbrandy Camp, Fishguard. The conditions of the huts and the general living conditions are bad.

Apart from the consideration of the individual families, this is a black spot which may seriously prejudice the health of the District as a whole.

The clearance of this site is long overdue, and I advise the re-housing of these families, with consequent demolition of the huts. No doubt, problems will arise after re-housing of these families, but these can be dealt with when and if they arise.



Repairs etc.. (Section 9, Housing Act)

Number of Informal Notices for Repairs	=	14
Number of Informal Notices complied with	=	13
Number of Formal Notices for repairs	=	1
Number of Formal Notices complied with	=	Nil
Number of cases taken to court	=	Nil
Number of cases entered and executed	=	Nil

Time and Place Notices, Demolition etc.. (Section 11, Housing Act)

Number of Time and Place Notices served	=	3
Number of Demolition Orders Made	=	Nil
Number of Proposals to repair accepted	=	Nil
Number of undertakings not to use for Human Habitation accepted	=	3
Number of Demolition Orders outstanding at the 31st December, 1952	=	15

Overcrowding and Re-Housing

In the absence of an up-to-date survey, the exact amount of overcrowding is difficult to determine. There is little doubt, however, that a fair degree of overcrowding exists in the District, especially in the Harbour Village area.

Overcrowding has always been a community evil, and is one of the greatest dangers to Public Health. One of the difficulties dealing with the problem is the fact that, amongst certain sections of the community, the condition of overcrowding is not considered detrimental. At the same time the problem will never be solved until there is an adequate Housing programme. The responsibility for providing an adequate Housing Programme rests with the Council.

To enable the present demand for re-housing to be gauged, I suggest that the Council advertises for applicants. Only in this way can the future Housing Programme be determined, apart from a house to house survey of the whole District.

General Observations on Housing

The beneficial effects of good housing are both short term and long term. The short term effect is the pleasure and consequent increase of morale given by modern amenities and conveniences. The long term effect of good housing may be summarised as follows:-

1. Consequent upon the increase in morale, there should be an eventual increase of general productivity. This is an important factor in the present economic state of the country.
2. Increase bodily and physical well-being, particularly in regard to Infectious Disease, e.g. Tuberculosis, where adequate living space, a standard of hygiene and good ventilation and heating are essential factors in the elimination of this disease.
3. Increased Mental well-being.
There is little doubt that the conditions prevailing in the war years and the post-war period, e.g. young married couples, in rooms, or living with in-laws, resulted, in many cases, in emotional conflicts. Such emotional conflict is often reflected in the mental instability of children reared under these conditions. Thus this matter has some bearing on the problem of juvenile delinquency and educationally sub-normal children.

Due to the continued decline in Birth-Rate, and the increased expectation of life, the community is gradually inclining towards the older age-groups. Thus, future housing programmes will be required, more and more, to



cater for elderly people.

There is a tendency in Urban areas to develop large new Housing Estates on the outskirts of the town, with subsequent neglect of the town centres. If such neglect proceeds too far, then insanitary conditions are bound to arise. It is important, therefore, both from a general sanitary point of view, and from an amenity point of view, that derelict areas in the heart of the town should be cleared. This to be followed by either re-building or provision of pleasant open spaces.

Conclusion. The Council has faced up to, and largely met, the post-war housing problem. There is still, however, a hard core of housing problems, clearance areas, provision of old people's houses. Also, it must be remembered, that young people continue to follow the traditional marriage ceremony, with subsequent demands for a 'home of their own'. It is important for their physical and mental health, and that of their children, that they should have a 'home of their own'.

Special Observations on Lower Fishguard area

A special survey of Lower Fishguard has been made. The general position regarding Housing in this area is bad.

As regards water supply, the position is reasonably good, and only 6 out of the 71 premises concerned are without an adequate piped water supply.

The position regarding drainage, however, is exceedingly grave. Well over 50% of the houses in this area have the pail closet system of sanitation. There is no real danger with the pail closet system in individual houses in rural areas, but in an Urban Area, such as this, the potential danger is great.

The vital problem is the disposal of the contents of the pail closet. The majority of these are being emptied in the stream passing through Lower Fishguard.

I advise the Council to consider implementing two policies in regard to this area :-

(1) Arrange for collection of night soil, and its proper disposal via the sewers.

(2) Long-Term Policy.

Institute a five year plan for the replanning of Lower Fishguard to include plans for i.e. Building, Drainage, Water Supply, and Demolition.

The County Planning Officer would be of great assistance in this matter.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Number of Factories on Register	=	39
Number of Factories with Mechanical Power	=	25
Number of Factories with Non-Power	=	14
Number of Factory-Bakehouses - Power	=	7
Number of Bakehouses - Non-Power	=	1

No new factories or workshops were introduced during the year.

There are no premises registered under the Rag Flock Act.

Number of Inspections made	=	56
Number of Defects found under Section 7 of The Factory Act	=	4
Number of defects remedied after formal notice	=	4
Number of cases referred by H.M. Inspector	=	1
Number of cases remedied after formal notice	=	1

GENERAL HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Public Conveniences

The District is reasonably well provided with public sanitary accommodation. There are three (3) all purpose (both sexes) conveniences situated as follows :-

- | | |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1. Market Square. | Fishguard. |
| 2. Quay Road. | Goodwick. |
| 3. Promenade. | Goodwick. |

There is no need for a convenience in Lower Fishguard, particularly during the summer season. This can only be considered, however, in the general scheme for the drainage of Lower Fishguard as a whole.

Misuse of Public Conveniences continues. This cannot be avoided except where it is possible to employ a full-time attendant.

Adequate sign-posting of conveniences is of great value to visitors.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

In every instance after the termination of notifiable disease, disinfection has been carried out. In some instances notice of termination is given by the doctor in charge of the case. In other instances, information is given by the householder.

During the year, eighteen (18) premises were disinfected. Where the circumstances warrant it, a free supply of fluid disinfectant is issued.

The effective disinfection of bedding and textiles is a problem owing to the lack of proper plant. It has been the custom to send such material to one of the institutions. Arrangements have to be made beforehand, and very often it is not convenient for such institutions to do this work.

Disinfestation was carried out at two premises during the year for the elimination of cockroaches. No action has been taken for bug infestation.

Refuse Disposal

No change has taken place in the system of refuse disposal. House Refuse is collected once a week from all premises, during the

year. Every householder was circularised with a view to obtaining their co-operation in the more hygienic storage of the refuse. It is regretted that no great improvement has been made by householders to obtain covered bins which many tenants claim to be the obligation of the owners. This matter has been the subject of a great deal of controversy during the past few years. The refuse, after collection, is disposed of on lands adjacent to Wern Road, Goodwick. The policy of reclaiming land by disposing of refuse under a system of controlled tipping is now beginning to bear fruit, and what was at one time bog land, in the very near future can be put to some useful purpose.

The Council do not undertake the collection of Trade Refuse except by arrangement, after application is made.

I would again strongly impress the danger of inadequate storage facilities of refuse, both to the individual householder, and the public as a whole.

Sewage Disposal

There has been no change in the method of sewage disposal. The conditions are much the same as in the previous report. Housing developments have necessitated an extension of the sewers. The sewer serving Harbour Village, Goodwick, and Hillside Close, Goodwick, remains a private sewer.

The outfall for the Goodwick Area is part of the portion of sewer vested in the Railway Authorities. The outfalls in the Fishguard Area are part of the public sewers.

The number of premises connected to the sewage system is approximately 97%, those not connected being outside a reasonable distance of the Public Sewer.

The general state of the sewers, and the disposal of sewage in the Fishguard side cannot be considered as highly satisfactory.

The drainage difficulties in Lower Fishguard have already been referred to in the section dealing with Housing. The situation here is most unsatisfactory, and suggestions have been made to meet the unsatisfactory state of affairs.

Rodent Control

Operations for the destruction of pests have been intensified during the year. More frequent treatments have been applied to the properties owned or occupied by the Council. Several block schemes of disinfection were carried out on housing properties. Four (4) business premises were subjected to treatment during the year. The sea embankments along the Breakwater, and Promenade, Goodwick, were subjected to treatment. The results, however, were very disappointing.

The work of pest destruction is now beginning to show good results. It may be doubtful whether the stage will ever be reached when total elimination is achieved, but the rat population has certainly diminished, and the new methods applied for destruction are certainly more effective than the old methods.

There still remains an element of apathy with the public who are of the opinion that they can deal with it themselves. Business people generally rely to a great extent on the keeping of cats, under the impression that where there are cats, there are no rats. This is a wrong idea. Cats kill to eat and it is very rare that they eat rats. And the pests are capable of defending themselves against cats.

Port Sanitation

The Authority is charged with certain duties in connection with the Maritime Works at Fishguard Harbour. The Shipping using the port is limited to what may be regarded as coastwise traffic. No foreign ships enter the port. Those using the Harbour ply between Ireland and this Country. Sailings are made between Cork, Waterford, Rosslare, and Fishguard; that is, three sailings each week - Cork and Fishguard; three sailings each week - Waterford and Fishguard; and three sailings each week - Rosslare and Fishguard. The number of sailings has been reduced in the last few years. Sometimes, the number of sailings is increased during holiday seasons. Some years ago, provision was made for dealing with a large quantity of cattle. The lairages and facilities for disembarking the cattle could be regarded as equal to anywhere on the coastline. Unfortunately, the quantity imported from the Irish Free State has fallen to a very small amount.

During the year, there was a slight increase in the number of horses imported. These were intended for slaughter as food, towards the end of the year. This also fell off.

The chief imports are the agricultural products of Ireland, namely :- Eggs, Butter, Bacon, Fish, Meat of different kinds, and certain kinds of fruit according to the season.

The amount of slaughtering carried out is limited to animal casualties arriving at the Port. These are subjected to inspection before being transported to other parts of the Country.

The following were found, on inspection, to be unfit for human consumption - Beef(124.lbs), Offals (42.lbs).

All ships using the Port are subject to periodical inspection, in particular, the quarters occupied by the crews. These are kept in a clean hygienic condition and free of pests. Should any infestation of rats occur, the boats are sent to an authorised derattisation Port. No action has been called for during the year.

Nuisances

Twenty-one cases of alleged nuisances were investigated during the year. Nineteen of these called for action for the abatement. Three of these called for formal action. Sixteen were dealt with by Informal action.

Statutory Notices. Number requiring the abatement of nuisances arising from the keeping of animals	= 3
Number of Nuisances abated	= 3
Number of Informal Notices requiring the abatement of nuisances arising from the accumulation of filth and refuse	= 9
Number of Nuisances abated	= 9
Number of Notices calling for the abatement of nuisances arising from defective drains	= 6
Number of Nuisances abated	= 6
Number of Notices requiring cleansing of cesspits	= 1
Number of Nuisances abated	= 1

Public Houses - Sanitation

There are eighteen (18) licensed premises in the area. Of these, sixteen are situated in the Fishguard Ward, and two in the Goodwick Ward. Each of these premises are equipped with washing-up facilities in the bars and are provided with supplies of Hot and Cold water. The premises have also toilet facilities, for the different sexes, and are generally kept in a clean wholesome state.

Street Cleansing

Street cleansing is carried out on highways with the main shopping centres. Very little is carried out in the residential parts. The average time devoted to this service is four half days for four men each week. Street cleansing is carried out in the early part of the day.

What seems to be overlooked is the necessity of removing foul matter dropped by dogs on the pavements. Instructions should be given to workmen that street scavenging includes the removal of such matter.

The Square, and West Street, Fishguard, is not an easy area to keep clean of litter etc. It frequently happens that within an hour after the area is swept, papers and general litter, are carried by winds, and accumulate at these points. More time should be allocated to this service.

Mortuaries

- (a) Site - Goodwick. This is not a good site as it is difficult to approach. The building was adapted some years ago as an improvisation.
- (b) Its size is very limited, with an area of approximately 120.sq.ft.
- (c) One corpse only can be accommodated.
- (d) A supply of cold water only is available.
- (e) No sanitary accommodation is available.
- (f) No protective clothing is provided.
- (g) No instruments are provided in the event of a Post Mortem examination. The doctor carrying out the examination provides the instruments.
- (h) Disinfectants are supplied as required.
- (i) No telephone is available.
- (j) No heating arrangements are available, and the ventilation is bad.

No attendant is kept on the premises. It will be observed from the above that it is maintained simply as a place for the reception of a single corpse in an emergency, and the number of instances it has been used during the past few years is extremely few.

Salvage

This service has ceased in the locality. During the war years, it was carried on with a view to salvaging material which was required for the War effort, then suddenly, there was no market for the materials salvaged and the service became uneconomic. A separate day of each week is fixed for the collection of papers and cartons, chiefly from business premises. The material collected is disposed of on the Refuse Tip.

Common Lodging Houses

There is one common lodging house in the District situated at Goodwick. The number of persons using it is very small, and some of those lodging there have been there for some time, and are not of the wandering type. The premises are kept in a clean wholesome condition. The conduct of the premises is of course kept under

observation by the Police Authorities.

Vagrant Dead.
Removal of Persons.
Smoke Abatement.
Offensive Trades.
Exhumation.

)
)
)
)
)

NIL TO REPORT.

A P P E N D I X I.

Visit of Mass Radiography Service - September and October, 1952.

The following is a statistical summary of the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit :-

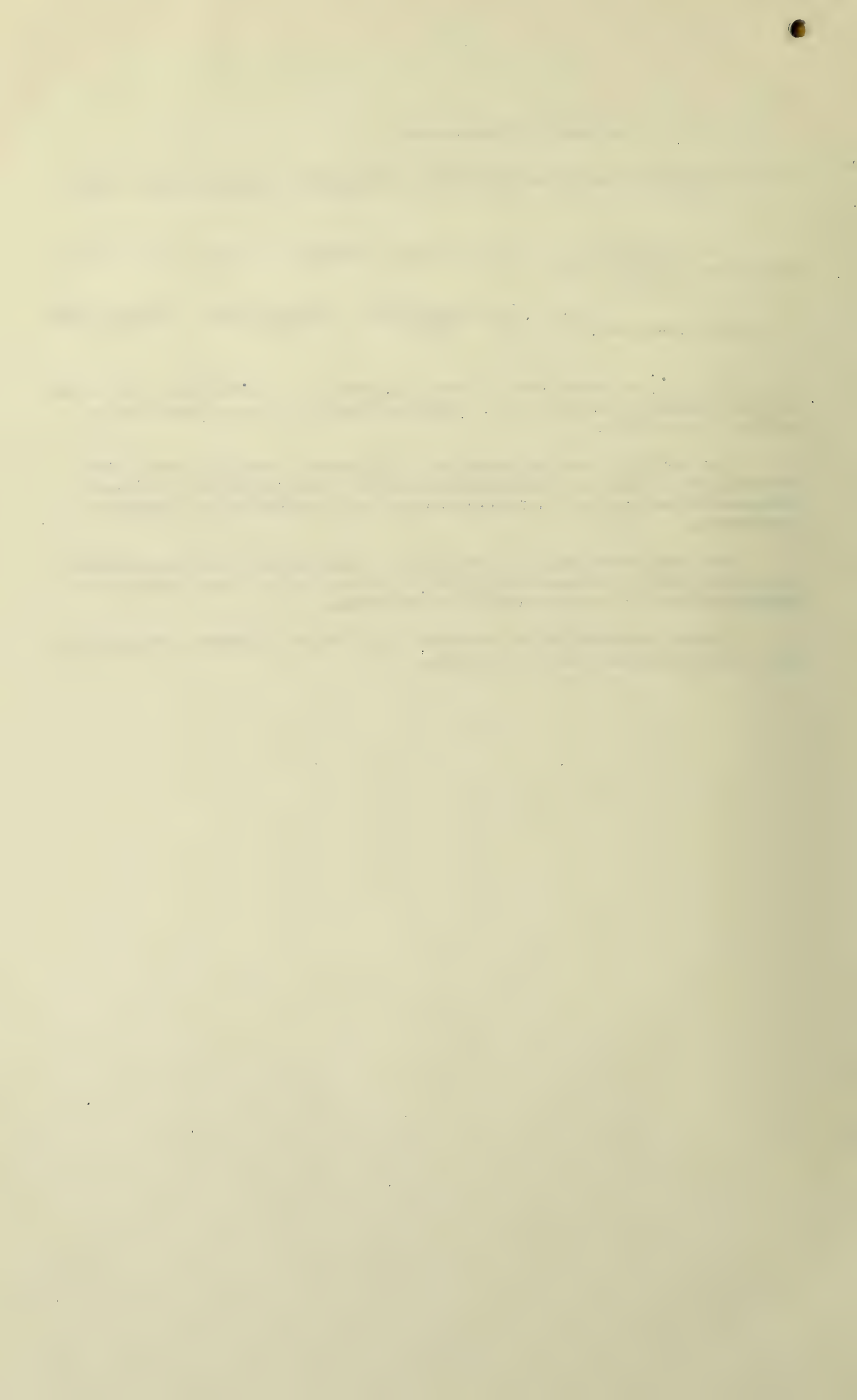
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total 1952.</u>	<u>Total 1951.</u>	<u>Total 1949</u>
Persons Examined	379	462	841	576	406

It will be seen that there has been an appreciable increase in the numbers attending for examination, with each successive visit of the Unit.

Out of 841 persons examined, 59 were found to have some abnormality, that is, approximately 7%. The majority of these abnormalities were of a minor nature not requiring any special treatment.

One definite case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was discovered and seven other persons required to have further examination and investigation for suspected Tuberculosis.

Other abnormalities detected were Heart Disease, Bronchitis, bony abnormalities, and Fibrosis.



A P P E N D I X II

New Orders and Regulations coming into force during the year 1952

<u>Official Publications</u> <u>Short Titles.</u>	<u>Date of Operation</u>
1. Food Standards. (Eish Paste) Amendment Order, 1951.	7th March, 1952.
2. Food Standards. (Meat Paste) Order, 1951.	7th March, 1952.
3. Parrots (Prohibition of Import)	8th January, 1952.
4. Public Health (Tuberculosis) 1952.	1st May, 1952.
5. Ice Cream (Heat Treatment)	5th May, 1952.
6. Condemnation of Imported Canned Meat	Circ. MF/3/52.
7. Food Standards. (Ice Cream) Amendment Order, 1952.	7th July, 1952.
8. Defence Sale of Food Regulations. Public Health(Aircraft) Regulations, 1952.	1st October, 1952.
9. Public Health Act, 1936. Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1952.	1st October, 1952.
10. Public Health Act, 1936, Section 143. Public Health (Meat) Amendment Regulations, 1952.	-
11. Food and Drugs Act 1938. Milk and Dairies Regulations	Circ. MF/5/52.
12. Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations	Circ. MF/7/52.
13. Public Health (Meat) Amendment Regulations 1952.	Circ. MF/8/52.
14. Rivers. (Prevention of Pollution)Act, 1951	Circ. 58/52.
15. Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1952.	Circ. 24/52.
16. Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.	Circ. 25/52.
17. Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.	Circ. 31/52.
18. Rodent Control. Treatment of Sewers.	Circ. PDP/1952/4.
19. Rodent Control. Manufacture of Warfarin.	Circ. PDP/1952/5.
20. Food Standards (Coffee Mixture) Order, 1952.	21st September, 1952.
21. Mineral Oil in Food (Amendment) Order, 1952.	19th October, 1952.
22. Housing (Improvement) Grants Exes. Regs. 1952.	1st November, 1952.
23. Milk (Special) Designation Specified Order, 1952.	1st November, 1952.
24. Public Health(Imported Food)Regs.(Republic of Turkey)	MF/11/52.
25. Milk & Dairies Regs.1949. Approved oxidising and preservative agents.	MF/12/52
26. Mineral Oil in Food (Amendment) Order, 1952.	MF/13/52.
27. Infectious Disease in Aircraft(Tracing of Contacts)	No.28/52.

New Orders and Regulations coming into force during the year 1952

Official Publications Short Titles	Date of Operation
1. Food Standards (Fish Parts) Amendment Order, 1951.	7th March, 1952.
2. Food Standards (Meat Parts) Order, 1951.	7th March, 1952.
3. Patents (Prohibition of Import)	8th January, 1952.
4. Public Health (Tuberculosis) 1952.	1st May, 1952.
5. Ice Cream (Bait Treatment)	5th May, 1952.
6. Contamination of Imported Canned Meat	6th May, 1952.
7. Food Standards (Ice Cream) Amendment Order, 1952.	7th May, 1952.
8. National Code of Food Regulations. Public Health (Airways) Regulations, 1952.	1st October, 1952.
9. Public Health Act, 1952. Public Health (Ship) Regulations 1952.	1st October, 1952.
10. Public Health Act, 1952. Section 145. Public Health (Meat) Amendment Regulations, 1952.	-
11. Food and Drugs Act 1952. Milk and Dairy Regulations	6th May, 1952.
12. Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations	6th May, 1952.
13. Public Health (Meat) Amendment Regulations 1952.	6th May, 1952.
14. Airways (Provision of Facilities) Act, 1952.	6th May, 1952.
15. Public Health (Airways) Regulations, 1952.	6th May, 1952.
16. Public Health (Ship) Regulations, 1952.	6th May, 1952.
17. Public Health (Ship) Regulations, 1952.	6th May, 1952.
18. Public Health (Ship) Regulations, 1952.	6th May, 1952.
19. Public Health (Ship) Regulations, 1952.	6th May, 1952.
20. Food Standards (Coffee Mixture) Order, 1952.	1st September, 1952.
21. Mineral Oil in Food (Amendment) Order, 1952.	1st October, 1952.
22. Housing (Improvement) Grants Regulations, 1952.	1st November, 1952.
23. Milk (Special) Destination Specified Order, 1952.	1st November, 1952.
24. Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations (Amendment) Order, 1952.	1st November, 1952.
25. Milk & Milk Products Regulations, 1952.	1st November, 1952.
26. Mineral Oil in Food (Amendment) Order, 1952.	1st November, 1952.
27. Infectious Diseases in Animals (Treatment of Carcasses)	1st November, 1952.

